

**SECRET**

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5 OCT 1950

Major General A. R. Bolling  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2  
Department of the Army  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Alee,

Reference is made to your memorandum of 28 September 1950 in reply to this Agency's Collection Request No. A-1762.1, dated 8 September 1950.

I quite agree with you that the biographical files in Europe should be surveyed before being microfilmed, in order to ensure (a) that there is no effort wasted on files of marginal or negligible value, and (b) that the system employed in microfilming materials now in the files, and arrangements for transmission of additional material accessioned in future, are such as to ensure efficient handling of the data here in Washington.

The need for such a survey was discussed in the SIC Meeting of 1 September 1950, (see page 2 of the Minutes), and it was subsequently decided that [ ] was the best qualified man then available to undertake the work. Since the Army Representative, SIC, had "agreed to request authority" for the [ ] file to be microfilmed, it was considered that it would be desirable for [ ] to commence his survey with that file; ascertaining how and in what arrangement the materials were filmed, and working out arrangements for processing future accretions to the file. However, when approached by [ ], Lt. Col. Merrill took the view that no such survey by a CIA representative was either necessary or desirable. Accordingly, CIA agreed to postpone all biographic survey activity in Europe until formal agreement should have been reached between G-2 and CIA on the subject.

I am grateful for the information concerning biographic files which your people have given to [ ] and for the assurance in your memorandum that G-2 will permit those which are under Army jurisdiction to be surveyed by a CIA representative. As it will be of great help to us in our planning, I should like to ask that G-2 provide for CIA a statement of the biographic files which will be available for survey. Upon receipt of such a statement, we will designate a competent specialist and assign him to the task.

Sincerely,

R. H. HILLENKOTTER

Rear Admiral, USN

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Director of Central Intelligence

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4 Oct 1950  
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